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WKU Student Affairs

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COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD

Western Kentucky University • Bowling Green, Kentucky

Student News, Faculty News, Alumni News, All News



Sara Holcombe/Herald

Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist and journalist Clarence Page speaks at Van Meter Auditorium yesterday. Page's lecture reflected on the history of black people from the abolition of slavery to the present crisis of leadership in the United States.

Speaker reflects on diversity

To students; Make sure diversity is always present

By NINA BOSKEN
Herald reporter

The future of diversity lies in the hands of today's college students, according to a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist who visited Western last night.

Journalist Clarence Page kicked off Western's 50 Years of Integration Celebration and Black History Month yesterday at Van Meter Auditorium. Students and adults were spread throughout the auditorium to hear the speaker. Page used personal stories and current events to convey his message of diversity in the media.

"I hope students gained a different perspective of what's going on in the world," said C.J. Woods, director of the Office of Diversity Programs.

It's up to students to make sure diversity

is always present, Page said.

"I think campuses have opened up and equalized opportunity over the years," he said. "Now it's up to the students to take advantage of the diversity that's available by leaving their comfort zones and getting acquainted with students with different backgrounds than their own."

He began his career at age 17 freelancing for the Middletown Journal and the Cincinnati Enquirer.

"I wanted to be where the action was," Page said. "I wanted to be an eyewitness to history."

For 11 years he wrote and edited for the Chicago Tribune, where, since 1984,

he has had a column that is syndicated across the nation. He has also freelanced for Chicago Magazine, the Wall Street Journal, New York Newsday and Washington Monthly.

"I wanted to be where the action was. I wanted to be an eyewitness to history."

— Clarence Page
Journalist

In 1989, he won the Pulitzer Prize for commentary. He was inducted into the Chicago Journalism Hall of Fame in 1992.

Hunter Williams, a graduate student from Georgetown, said her favorite part of the speech was when Page spoke about

genes and how people try to identify with a certain race.

"We're all a mix," she said. "I think it's interesting that we focus on race so much because no one is 100 percent one race."

— Reach Nina Bosken
at news@wkuherald.com

Tuition hike may exceed expectation

Must make up for state budget

By AMBER COULTER
Herald reporter

University presidents will try to convince legislators today to increase funding for higher education substantially. If they fail, it will be students' responsibility to make up the difference.

Tuition increases may be in the double digits next year for almost all Kentucky schools if legislators don't increase funding for higher education by more than \$30 million.

In 2004 the Board of Regents adopted a policy of increasing tuition by 5 percent each year, but that policy may change if the state's budget doesn't allow more funding to Western, President Gary Ransdell said.

During a Board of Regents meeting last month, Ransdell predicted Western tuition would increase by about 8.7 percent next year.

A possible \$45 increase for a new construction fee was the only change that administrators made to that plan after they received modest increases in Gov. Ernie Fletcher's proposed budget last month, Ransdell said.

That tuition increase is lower than the maximum increase allowed by the Council on Post-

Secondary Education, but it depends on Western receiving enough money from the state budget, he said.

Western and other Kentucky universities received less money than administrators expected from the governor's proposal.

The budget is in the House Appropriations and Revenue Committee for revision. It will then go to the House for a vote and be sent to the Senate for revision and a vote. The General Assembly will have a joint vote and send the budget to the governor for approval.

The regular legislative session ends April 15. Ransdell said it's hard to predict how low administrators can keep tuition increases, but he thinks the projected increase is stable.

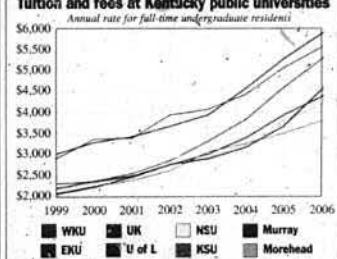
"I get varying signals," he said. "I'm hopeful that we'll be able to improve the budget in the House and Senate next month, but I don't know that."

A formula approved by CPE on Monday set high and low price limits for Kentucky universities, said Sandy Woodley, CPE vice president of finance.

The formula is designed to

See TUITION, page 3A

Tuition and fees at Kentucky public universities



Racks, registration to combat bike theft

Cyclists will get ID stickers

By COREY PAUL
Herald reporter

Brian Harris left his on-campus job in September to find one of his modes of transportation stolen.

Someone had taken his mountain bike.

"I assume that someone was walking around with bolt cutters looking to steal a bike," the Owensboro senior said.

His bike was never found.

Next semester, Western will begin trying to keep riders like Harris on their bikes instead of their feet.

This fall, new bicycle racks and mandatory bicycle registration may alleviate problems of bicycle theft, said Jennifer Tougas, director of Parking and Transportation Improvements.

Sixty new bicycle racks will allow riders to secure their bicycles by the frame instead of the wheel, which can be easily removed, she said.

Cyclists will have to bring their bicycles to the Department of Parking and Transportation office. Each bike's serial number will be recorded, and students will be given an identification sticker, Tougas said.



Nick Adams/Herald

Sturgis sophomore Kenneth George rides his bicycle from his apartment to Western's campus every day. He parks his bike outside Pearce Ford Tower.

This will allow the bikes to be identified if they are abandoned or recovered after a theft, she said.

Harris was unable to provide police with his bicycle's serial number and said mandatory registration might have helped them recover the bicycle.

Students are already able to register their bicycle serial numbers with campus police but it is

not required, said Capt. Mike Wallace, public information officer for the campus police.

Bicycle theft is not a major problem, but it could be fixed, said Mike Dowell, captain of investigations for campus police.

The Herald previously reported two bicycle thefts in the last two semesters.

"Any time an individual has

something stolen it is important to them, but we aren't seeing a rash of (bike) thefts at this time," he said.

Making bicycle registration mandatory may easily fix the problem of bike thefts, even if it is a small one, Wallace said, ...

— Reach Corey Paul
at news@wkuherald.com

Students working more to pay for rising tuition

Some also rely on loans and family help

By AMBER COULTER
Herald reporter

Arthur Latham tried to put his key in his dorm door last February.

But it didn't fit anymore.

The Radcliff sophomore had not paid tuition for the semester, so Western officials changed the lock.

Latham is back on the Hill after earning about \$700 making hamburgers and car frames at his two jobs this past summer.

Rising tuition rates are making it harder for Latham and other Western students to come up with the money to pay for college costs.

Western's tuition may increase by about 8.7 percent next year if legislators don't allow much money to higher education in the state budget.

The Board of Regents voted last year to keep tuition increases at 5 percent each year, but

President Gary Ransdell said the rates could increase even more because of budget shortfalls.

Nathan Witherpoon, a junior from Jeffersonville, Ind., started working at Target to get about \$700 for tuition and books.

"You have to have the money by a certain day, and if you don't have it, they kick you out," he said.

Other students are getting by with government loans and help from their family members.

Kim Ocant, the mother of Versailles junior Tommy Grant, said it's a struggle to keep up with the rising cost of tuition.

But she and her husband want to provide for her two children in college, she said.

"We want to give them the best opportunity to make a successful life," she said.

Tommy Grant said it will take a long time for him to pay

See WORKING, page 3A

On Tuesday

Read Tuesday's Herald for a story about church services held on campus.



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Any time this symbol appears next to a story in the Herald, go to www.wkuherald.com for more exclusive content, like photos or a multimedia show.

2 DAY

By the numbers

200

Known number of viruses which can cause the common cold.

2.4

Average number of respiratory illnesses a person contracts each year.

www.collegeheightsherald.com/updates.html

WHAT'S GOING ON

- ◆ Frank X-Walker presentation in celebration of Black History Month: 3-5 p.m. today, Glasgow campus, room X31
- ◆ Frank X-Walker presentation, 10 a.m. tomorrow, Helm Library, Java City
- ◆ Solo Nara, 11:30 a.m. tomorrow, fine arts center, recital hall
- ◆ Up-Til Dawn St. Agnes Fundraiser, 5 p.m. tomorrow, Preston Center
- ◆ Women's basketball game vs. Florida International, 7 p.m. Saturday, Chickadee Arena
- ◆ Living On exhibit opening reception, 5-7 p.m. Monday, fine arts center, art gallery

a thousand words

Beyond the Hill



"MEANIE, MEANIE, get over here before you get hurt! I don't know what I would do if something happened to you," Wanda Boydston yells as her dog walks near her 15-foot tall truck.

The truck is filled almost to the rim with pieces of metal, and a large claw drops more metal in, making a loud shattering sound. Wanda drives around the Bowling Green area looking for people's unwanted and used items.

Attached to the truck is a small flatbed trailer. She drives into R.E. Harp & Sons Recycling with a broken back window and the trailer loaded with a hot water heater, bits of metal, a microwave and other unusual items, all found on the side of the road.

"I can usually make from five dollars to forty dollars, but with gas as high as it is nowadays, I only have a few dollars for milk or some bread," she says.

Meanie goes everywhere Wanda goes. Wanda found him when he was a pup and he had no idea he would become so large. She jokes and says that he's just a beast.

Meanie got his name from her niece, who thought he was mean. However, this isn't the case. Meanie is as sweet as can be and is still a good watchdog.

After Wanda's business is finished and the truck is emptied, she gets back in and drives off. Meanie follows behind on foot.

Nick Adams is a freshman photojournalism major from Houston, Texas. He can be reached at nicholas.adams@wku.edu.

Crime reports

Reports

◆ Shewna K. Cawthorn, University Bookstore, reported criminal mischief in the third degree on Jan. 25 when she discovered a steel pipe had been thrown into the bookstore concession-trailer roof in Smith Stadium. The value of the damage was \$2,255.40.

◆ Tara R. Koger, Pearce Ford Tower, reported criminal mischief in the third degree on Jan. 28 when an unknown object struck the front glass door of PFT, causing it to shatter. The value of the damage was \$300.

◆ Jacob H. May, Keen Hall, reported a burglary in the second degree on Jan. 29 when he noticed his DVDs, Playstation 2, six games, backpack, textbooks and calculator stolen from his room.

The value of the theft was \$1,315.

Arrests

◆ Adam C. York, Joelton, Tenn., was arrested on Jan. 27 for speeding and driving under the influence of alcohol on University Boulevard. He was released on Jan. 27 on a court order.

◆ Chandel E. Shanklin, Fern Hill Road, was arrested on Jan. 27 for criminal trespassing in the third degree on Western property on the corner of 14th and Adams streets. She was released on Jan. 28.

◆ Lauren N. Beason, PFT, was arrested on Jan. 27 for speeding and driving under the influence of alcohol on University Boulevard. She was released on Jan. 27 on a court order.

◆ Carlton J. Wansley, PFT, was arrested on Jan. 28 for alcohol intoxication in a public place in the Schneider Hall parking lot. He was released on Jan. 28 for time served.

◆ Zachary S. Lowe, Castle Heights Road, was arrested on Jan. 28 for alcoholic intoxication in a public place on Chestnut Street. He was released on Jan. 28 for time served.

◆ Denise N. Hurd, Kirtley Way, was arrested on Jan. 29 for speeding and driving under the influence of alcohol on University Boulevard. She was released on Jan. 29 on a \$700 unsecured bond.

◆ Andrew P. True, Keen, was arrested on Jan. 29 for possession of marijuana in his dorm room. He was released on Jan. 30 on an assuery bond.

Corrections

◆ Due to a Herald error, junior Tracy Jenkins' classification was misidentified in a front page article about an increase in nursing enrollment at Western in Tuesday's issue. Nursing students have to be at least a junior to enter the nursing program at Western.

Jenkins applied to the nursing department's associate program three times and the bachelor of science nursing program twice.

Jenkins entered the nursing program through an appeals process open to all students.

Chris Thompson and Deanna Hanson's names were also misspelled.

In the photo caption, Megan Brotherton is cleaning and cauterizing a patient's tracheostoma. The Herald regrets the errors.

The College Heights Herald corrects all confirmed errors that are brought to reporters' or editors' attention. Please call 745-6011 or 745-5044 to report a correction, or e-mail us at herald@wkuherald.com.




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Campus life

Fees increase to fund projects

BY KATIE BRANDENBURG
Herald reporter

Many Kentucky schools are asking students to pay the balance when project funding doesn't come through.

Western and other schools across the state are starting to increase student fees to cope with projected decreased state funding and more construction and repair projects.

Western administrators are proposing a new \$48 campus rebuilding fee that would help finance the expansion of the fine arts center, the construction of a new Health Services Center and the second phase of making the Hill wireless.

If the fee is approved, it would be the 14th student fee included in tuition next semester.

The new cost would be the second campus rebuilding fee. This first was a \$156 fee added this semester, Chief Financial Officer Ann Mead said.

"When we have a specific need that we think cannot be addressed without a specific revenue stream, we are more likely to have a fee," Mead said.

All new fees are first discussed with the Student Government

Association before they are voted on by the Board of Regents, she said.

When fees are issued to the student body, they generally become part of the regular tuition rate and are not recognized as fees the next academic year, Mead said.

The change was made in fall 2002, Bursar Beinda Higginbotham said.

The policy changed because multiple student fees made semester bills hard to understand, she said.

There are 12 previous student fees now part of the restricted tuition rate, according to the revenue summary for the 2005-06 operating budget. The new rebuilding fee established this semester will go into the tuition next semester.

Previous fees include a student radio fee, a fee to fund student spirit groups and a health services fee.

The fees totaled about \$459 per student.

"Fundamentally, we would like to have just one student fee, and that would be the student athletic fee," Mead said.

The \$107 athletic fee cannot be rolled into tuition because money it raises is being used to

pay off bonds issued by the city of Bowling Green.

Adding student fees has also become common practice at other state universities.

Anita Poyner, the bursar at Murray State University, said Murray has had similar problems with student fees. Fees increased by \$3 per credit hour this year, she said.

The increase is about \$2 more than usual because of necessary increases in the tuition rate and new projects that Murray is pursuing, Poyner said.

A large project to which student fees will contribute is updating computer labs across the campus, she said.

Some schools have tried to fight charging students more in fees.

Eastern Kentucky University has refused to add new fees or increase existing ones in the last year because tuition rose by such a large margin, Eastern Interim Registrar Tina Davis said.

An upgrade of Eastern's electrical support network was another factor that contributed to the increase, Davis said.

Reach Katie Brandenburg at news@wsherald.com.

Tuition: Raises seem unnecessary

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

set maximum tuition increases to better control tuition instead of letting each university set the rates individually, Woodley said.

The limits are based on median family income in Kentucky, she said. The formula is still undergoing minor alterations, but the limits are not expected to change.

The higher limits will take effect if the General Assembly doesn't include tax cuts instead of the \$60 million increase CPI requested from Fletcher, she said. The lower limits will take place if the money is approved.

Fletcher proposed a \$20 million increase for higher education spending in his budget.

The formula set an upper limit for Western at 10.2 percent and

the lower limit is 6.5 percent, Woodley said. The average upper limit for comprehensive universities was about 12 percent.

Woodley said Western's upper limit was set lower than the average because tuition at the university is already higher than at most comparable universities.

Sen. Tom Buford, R-Nicholasville, said the General Assembly has always been generous to higher education, but legislators are getting frustrated with university administrators asking for more money and still raising tuition every year.

"They won't receive the regular milk and cookies session they've always had," he said. "We're going to be asking some tough questions."

Rep. Mike Cherry, D-Princeton, agreed that tuition is

rising faster than necessary, but he hopes legislators give enough money to higher education to keep tuition rates closer to schools' lower limits.

"I predict and hope that when everything is settled, we will be able to do better for universities and students than the governor apparently thinks can be done," he said.

The formula set tuition at as much as 11.1 percent in the Kentucky Community and Technical College System and 7 percent at other community colleges, Woodley said.

Tuition could rise as much as 15.1 percent at the University of Kentucky and 15.4 percent at the University of Louisville, she said.

Reach Amber Coulter at news@wsherald.com.

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EDITORIAL

Positive Protest

Students and faculty from Western did a good thing when they joined a protest outside a local high school.

A group of Western students and faculty made a powerful statement when they showed up to protest at a local high school on Jan. 27.

The group from Western merged with high school students to form a protest of about 50 people in front of Greenwood High School.

Involvement of about 20 students and faculty members from Western showed that people care about issues that aren't just in the confines of Western's campus. The group carried signs that read "GIVE Pants a Chance" and "Pants Rock, Sexism Sucks!"

The protest was over a decision made by Greenwood Principal Mark Davis. Davis forbade sophomore Olivia Suttman from wearing pants in the Homecoming court on Jan. 27.

Suttman was nominated by her classmates to participate in the Homecoming Court. Suttman said she wasn't trying to be the typical Homecoming candidate and wanted to wear pants.

While a principal is obligated to keep order in the school, Davis was wrong in his decision to force Suttman to wear a dress or skirt in Homecoming events.

Wearing pants to a student-nominated Homecoming event is part of a student's right to choose. Principals have no right to force a girl to wear a dress in any situation. Pants would in no way bring disorder to the school's Homecoming celebrations. Forcing students to wear dresses is an outdated stereotype that should not be practiced, especially by a school official.

Although the protest brought attention from local media and well as media from Nashville, Davis refused to change his decision. He also refused to comment to the Herald on the subject to give his reasons on his decision.

Suttman dropped out of the court because Davis stubbornly stayed with his decision despite the uproar.

Western is known for its education department and the university produces many education professionals each year. These future educators attending Western and other universities should look at Davis' erroneous decision as an example of what not to do. Also, his unwillingness to explain his actions to the community and concerned students shows Davis is not doing his job.

Educators should keep an open mind and listen to the students and community. Davis' mind is clearly closed, and he won't give any reason why.

A girl wanting to wear pants instead of a dress in the Homecoming court poses no threat to a safe environment at the school. And the students and faculty members from Western did their part to have an impact on the community.

This editorial represents the majority opinion of the Herald's 10-member board of student editors.

COMMENTARY

Keep opinions out of classrooms



Brandon Wilson

I apparently missed the part in orientation before my freshmen year where they told students that being a professor meant that you had the right to impose your beliefs and ideas on absolute facts on students. In addition, no one ever told me that being a professor allowed you to ridicule anyone in your class for having a differing opinion from yours.

The other day, I was in a political science class dealing with government when the professor made a reference to God being a tyrant. He later made another reference to the same issue.

I am not here to argue with this professor's opinion about God. To be quite honest I could not possibly care less about why or what that professor taught me. I have long since developed my own opinion of God and don't need any help from a government professor on figuring out matters of a religious nature.

What I am here to argue is that professors should keep their own religious, and for that matter political, opinions out of the classroom and respect the beliefs of others. I understand that it is necessary for a religion professor to have an opinion about God, and I even understand that what they

teach is going to be slanted to what they believe. The same holds true for political science professors and politics.

However, there is no reason for an English professor to take 20 minutes out of class to persecute a group of students because of 300 they voted for in the last election (another unpleasant experience I was a part of).

It is a professor's job to teach the topics as he or she sees them to students, let a particular subject. It is not his or her job to make anyone feel as though their beliefs are wrong. Some professors seem to have the attitude that it is their divine duty to declare to the uneducated masses the absolute truth that was bestowed upon them regardless of its relevance, or irrelevance in this case, to the subject matter of the class.

Another problem is that Western is a public university, a part of the state. Since we all know that church and state are separate, they who are professors, paid employees of the state, allowed to express their religious opinions in classes that have nothing to do with religion?

If we do not say a prayer before sporting events so as to not offend those of other religions, then how can the university allow non-religious professors to express their religious beliefs? The absolute truth is that those professors who so proudly take part in these actions have one of those have closed their minds to new thinking, making them borderline bigots.

I also understand this goes both ways. I do not agree with a professor who preaches exactly what I believe to a classroom of students. I am not offended by what professors say. I am simply offended by the fact that

any professor would express his or her religious beliefs in a class where it has no relevance.

This is a public institution and the professors should be required to act as though they respect the separation between church and state.

Many professors profess their beliefs by providing the illusion of an open floor discussion by telling students that their opinions are welcomed. However, many students are intimidated by a person who controls his or her final grade and will not stand up for their beliefs out of fear.

Of the students who do stand up for what they believe, many of them are drawn into what is basically a one-on-one argument with a person who has the control of the classroom.

Either way, students with opposing views usually go unheard either from silence or by force of the benevolent dictators of the classrooms.

I am fine with separation of church and state, and in fact I support it, but it has to go both ways. If we are going to defend one group of people's right to sit in class and not be offended then we have to defend that right for everyone.

Simply put, let the religious professors teach religion, the political science professors teach politics and everyone else just stay out of both subjects all together.

Brandon Wilson is a senior predoctoral journalism major from Nashville.

The opinions expressed in this commentary do not reflect the opinions of the Herald or the university.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Herald apologizes

As the editor of the Herald, I make countless daily decisions about the content you read every Tuesday and Thursday.

Ever so often, I regret certain decisions.

Such is the case with our weekly feature "A Thousand words Beyond the Hill" from Thursday, Jan. 26. The caption accompanying the photo was offensive and embarrassing.

Even though the editorial board did not intend the words to demean the Latino community, we have received complaints from across Bowling Green. One of the printed word's greatest assets — its permanence — is in this case, its greatest weakness. While we cannot strike the words from the record, the editorial board can offer our apologies to those offended.

While we cannot take back our ink-drenched words, I can promise we will try to prevent this kind of slip from happening in the future. The Herald is reviewing and adjusting the editing process to ensure content does not offend readers.

Michael Casagrande
 Editor-in-Chief

Erika Brown, senior
 Overbaker

These are the Herald's views on the good, the bad and the slightly unattractive.

TOPS Bottoms

Hooray for Western's connection to the movie "Glory Road." The exposure shows Western's rich basketball history.

Boo to the bad call that might have cost Westerg a national championship in 1966. Who has ever heard of a foul on a jump ball?

Tops for Western and Eastern Kentucky University for working on a doctorate program in education.

Boo to the waiting list to get into the nursing program. Eighty-eight students were turned away last fall.

Yea for President Gary Ransdell and other university presidents for fighting for higher education in Frankfort. Governor Ernie Fletcher needs to rethink his budget.

COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD

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The Herald publishes Tuesdays and Thursdays

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The Herald encourages readers to write letters and commentaries on topics of public interest. Here are a few guidelines:

- Letters should not exceed 250 words, and commentaries should be 700-800 words.
- Originality counts. There is no grade or class here. Please don't submit plagiarized work.
- For publication, letters and commentaries must include your name, phone number, home town, and classification or title. YOUR WORK WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION IF YOU FAIL TO PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION.
- If you choose to email your letter or commentary, please do not send it as an e-mail attachment. We use Microsoft computers.
- Letters will not run in every edition due to space constraints.
- The Herald reserves the right to edit all letters for style, grammar, length and clarity. The Herald does NOT print LIBELOUS LETTERS OR COMMENTARIES.

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Prejudice still exists in 21st Century

This article is in regards to "1000 Words" printed Thursday, Jan. 26.

As the twenty-first century creeps toward its second decade, one might begin to believe education would improve the level of ignorance in society. Until a few days ago I believed in this myth. In just eight lines, one photograph and one caption my whole hope of a prejudice-free future vanished into thin air.

Where to begin...

1. Having a dark complexion with a broken accent doesn't mean you're Latino, and many Latinos don't have a dark complexion as well as have excellent grammar skills.

Campus police

Student honored for bravery

BY COREY PAUL
Herald reporter

Ryan Russell went to the Media and Technology Hall to study for his finals last semester.

He didn't know he would end up helping police stop a violent disturbance.

Last night, campus police presented the Nashville junior with a Certificate of Recognition for doing just that.

"It is recognizing him for being a good citizen, basically," said Kerry Hatchett, captain of patrol for campus police, who presented Russell with the award.

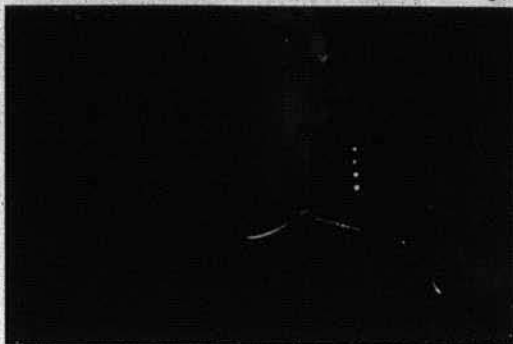
Russell was in the Mass Media computer lab when a Franklin non-student began screaming, threatening students in the lab and punching a desk, Russell said.

Russell called the police, and described to them what the non-student looked like.

Russell intervened when the non-student ran out of Mass Media and pushed a man entering the building to the ground.

"I was afraid if I didn't interact he would have continued to pummel that man," Russell said. At that point the police arrived, he said.

As Russell flagged, then-over the non-student ran and began kicking a female student until police stopped him, Russell said.



Christian Hansen/Herald

Ryan Russell goes out on patrol for about an hour four nights a week. He enjoys his work, and goes about it cheerfully. Occasionally something big happens, but most of the time he is responding to routine incidents.

Russell has a family history in law enforcement.

He interned with his father, who is a corrections officer at the Tennessee State Penitentiary.

Russell is also a member of the campus police department's Explorer post, a group of students that train under police for careers in law enforcement.

"I'm glad what we thought him is paying off," Hatchett said. Recipients of the Certificate

of Recognition don't have to be Explorers. The award can go to anyone who helps police with an investigation or disturbance, said Joe Harbaugh, sergeant of crime prevention and training of campus police.

Russell was one of the first Explorers at Western's Explorer post, Harbaugh said.

"From what I gather about Russell from the last year and a half working with him, even

though he has a joking sense of humor sometimes, he is the type that will act when something serious happens," he said.

After he completes Explorer training and college, Russell would like to work for the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

Reach Corey Paul
at news@wkuherald.com.

News Brief

Sorority houses get offensive phone calls

The Alpha Gamma Delta and Alpha Delta Pi sororities have reported a series of harassing phone calls to the Bowling Green Police Department.

The phone calls began at about noon last Thursday, said Danville junior Katie Winburn, president of the AGDs.

Winburn answered the first call made to the house, which

she said was very brief and perverse.

"The fact that someone would leave those messages on our answering machine disgusted me," she said.

The caller also left three back-to-back messages later that night, she said.

The ADPis declined to comment.

The AGDs and ADPis called the police early Saturday morning after receiving calls, said

Joe Corbett, public information officer for the Bowling Green Police Department. Officers visited each house.

Bowling Green junior Sarah Bybee, property coordinator for the AGDs, said the police advised her to get caller ID and to call their phone company to have them trace the calls.

Police also said the AGDs should lock their doors and document further calls, Winburn said.

Usually, police will patrol the surrounding area for a few weeks after reports of harassment, Corbett said.

Neither the AGDs or the ADPis have reported a harassing phone call since Saturday, he said.

Winburn called the Kappa Delta and Sigma Kappa sororities to see if they had been receiving similar perverse calls, but they had not, she said.

— Corey Paul

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Facilities

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Energy costs increase

BY ANDREW
McNAMARA
Herald reporter

A student's comforting night light is becoming a budgeting nightmare for administrators.

In the 2005 fiscal year, Western spent about \$2.9 million on energy resources. In 2006, that amount could increase to \$3.86 million to \$4.04 million.

Western administrators recently renegotiated Western's energy contracts to avoid similar increases in 2007.

Administrators looked for the best long-term deal to minimize the effect of rising energy costs in the general budget, said John Osborn, vice president of campus services and facilities.

The renewed 10-year electric contract with Tennessee Valley Authority allows the campus to use an additional three megawatts of electricity, said Tom Riley,

director of facilities management. This allows Western to use more power without having to pay an energy premium that fluctuates based on electrical energy rates, Riley said.

In the past, Western consistently paid the limit of its fiscal allocation of 2.2 megawatts during the summer, said Dale Dyer, manager of utility services.

Western spent an average of \$2.9 million a month on 2.2 megawatts of electricity in 2005.

In the past, Western has attempted to conserve energy by turning off excess lighting and shutting down the heating ventilation and air conditioning in buildings for 15-minute intervals during the summer, Dyer said.

But Western was charged about \$30,000 in additional premium fees in last October when the campus went over its limit. Dyer said.

Western's gas contracts have also gone through some changes. The gas contract with Atmos Energy Corp. was changed to allow Atmos to buy gas shares for Western on the New York Stock Exchange as hedges, Dyer said.

This means Western can buy gas for the future at a maximum price they would be willing to pay to save money, Dyer said.

This past fiscal year, the price of gas has increased between 20 and 75 percent more than in the previous year, Dyer said.

Administrators are still looking for cheaper sources for coal because the contract with the Pikeville coal mine will end in June or July, Dyer said.

Western may spend \$200,000 more on coal this fiscal year than in 2005, Dyer said.

Western is considering buying coal from Southern Indiana that costs about \$34 per ton less to ship to the Hill, Dyer said.

General Assembly

Some legislators want tuition money to balance budget

BY AMBER COULTER
Herald reporter

A progressing legal battle will determine if a collection of money from Kentucky parents can be used in the state budget.

A decision is expected this month in a lawsuit against the Kentucky's Affordable Prepaid Tuition Board of Directors and others after \$13.7 million from the KAPT program was voted to be used to help balance the state budget in March.

KAPT let families pay their children's tuition in advance at current prices, thereby dodging climbing tuition rates.

The lawsuit began at the state level in May.

Attorney General Greg Stumbo's office filed suit when some Republican legislators tried to take money from the fund to settle the debt problem, said Kenneth Mansfield, communications director for the state treasurer's office.

Stumbo's office filed suit to determine if it was constitutional to take the money, Mansfield said. The judge ordered an injunction to keep legislators from moving the money until he rules on the case.

Stumbo also named the Finance and Administration, Cabinet and the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority in the suit because those institutions were involved with the fund, Mansfield said.

State Treasurer Jonathan Miller is a member of the KAPT board, but he supports the suit, Mansfield said.

State legal precedent states that money can't be withdrawn from a fund with private and public money because there is no way to tell which amount came from which source, Mansfield said.

Stumbo didn't agree with the attempt to take that money because legislators don't have a right to it, said Sen. Walter Byrnes, D-Sandy Hook, who is on the Education Committee.

"It was money that people put up themselves," he said. "It's their money, not the state's money."

Some of the money the legislators tried to secure was from the sale of unclaimed property from banks, which helps fund KAPT, Byrnes said.

Sen. Tom Buford, R-Nicholasville, said the money from the sales has already been spent, so funding the program means less money for Kentucky schools and universities.

"I appreciate what the attorney general is doing because they're going to need every dime they can get their hands on to make this work," he said.

Sen. Charlie Borders, R-Russell, said taking money from the fund was not much of an issue because almost all money for funds such as KAPT comes from Kentucky's general fund.

Borders said legislators will honor their promise to pay back the money they took from the fund. The fund will be replenished with tax money.

Legislators closed KAPT to new enrollment during the last budget session because Kentucky can't support such an expensive program, especially with rising tuition rates, Buford said. All other states with similar programs have discontinued them.

Reach Amber Coulter at 502-587-0148 or acoulter@herald.com.

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• During the cooling season, raise blinds and drapes to block direct sun.

• Keep windows and doors closed in heated and air-conditioned areas.

• Keep thermostats set to 68-70 degrees during the winter season and 74-76 degrees for air-conditioned spaces during warm weather.

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Student government

SGA hears rebuilding fee rationale

BY KATIE
BRANDENBURG
Herald reporter

Three Western administrators defended the need for a new \$45 rebuilding fee at the Student Government Association meeting on Tuesday.

SGA members were concerned about how the money would be used if a new fee was adopted, but didn't seem opposed to the fee.

The \$45 fee would be an addition to the first \$156 rebuilding fee that students began paying this spring. Chief Financial Officer Ann Mead said, "The administrators" each explained how the fee would help Western projects.

Gene Tice, vice president of student affairs and campus services, addressed the extension of the fine arts center.

Plans for expanding the fine

arts center are still in the early phases, but improvements will include bigger classrooms, fixing the heating and cooling system and a possible addition of an indoor/outdoor stage area, Tice said.

Some senators questioned the necessity of some proposed fine arts center projects, such as the stage area.

Libby Greeney, director of health services, discussed the construction of a new health center.

Senators were concerned about a reduction of parking spots because of the center. A new Health Services building will eliminate some faculty parking near Tate Page Hall and Normal Drive. Richard Kirchmeyer, vice president of information technology, talked about beginning phase two of the wireless campus initiative.

Phase one, which began in July 2005, set up wireless con-

nections in 10 buildings, he said.

The next phase of the wireless campus initiative will provide wireless internet connections in 27 more buildings on campus, Kirchmeyer said.

"Our hope is for you to walk south, north, east and west - anywhere on campus - and have you connected to wireless Internet if you choose to do so," Kirchmeyer said.

The new student fee would continue to be charged as part of the restricted funds portion of the tuition rate until the 20- to 30-year bonds which Western will have to take out to complete the projects are paid off, Tice said.

Marion sophomore Jeanne Johnson, SGA speaker of the senate, said the forum was a success overall.

"A lot of great questions were asked and answered," Johnson said.

The next step is for senators

to go out and get the opinions of students on the issue, she said.

The Board of Regents will make a final decision about adopting the fee.

The discussion of the fee will continue at SGA's next meeting on Feb. 7 when President Gary Randall speaks to SGA members.

In other business:

♦ A bill creating a diversity council to discuss how Western is meeting the needs of its diverse student body passed unanimously. The council's first meeting will take place on Monday, Feb. 13.

♦ Nashville senior Seth Norman was appointed director of the public relations committee, and Fort Thomas sophomore Victoria Theriss was appointed head of the campus improvements committee.

Reach Katie Brandenburg

News briefs

Winter term forums to be held starting Feb. 7

Students and faculty wanting to talk about their winter term experiences will get their chance next week.

The Winter Term/Summer Sessions Advisory Committee is hosting three forums devoted to discussing the good and bad parts of winter term.

The goal of the forums is to get suggestions for improving winter term next year.

Two forums will focus on winter term faculty issues. One will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Feb. 7 in the Center for Leadership Excellence classroom in Helm-Gravens Library. The other will take place at 3:30 p.m. on Feb. 8 in the Downing University Center, room 230.

The other forum will focus on campus issues and processes and will take place at 10 a.m. on Feb. 8 in the Center for Leadership Excellence classroom.

-Bobby Harrell

Western group visits Chile during break

A geology and geography professor and two graduate students visited Chile over winter break and worked on three research projects.

Assistant geography professor John All spent five weeks in Chile, and parts of Argentina working on a climate control adaptation project funded by a National Science Foundation grant.

Daniel Reeder and Carl Bourette, geoscience graduate students, also went to Chile for a month over winter break to study globalization and its impact on the country's environment, sustainability and indigenous people.

The geography department had students and faculty conducting research and taking courses on five continents - Asia, North America, South America, Africa and Europe.

-Bobby Harrell

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WORKING: Parents ease burden of more costs

CRISTINA TOWN TERRY said his loans back because he wants to be a high school teacher. But he doesn't want to take any money from his parents after college.

Vedavathi Krishna, a graduate student from Bowling Green, works at Halm-Cravens library.

Krishna said she came to Western because she couldn't afford to go to college in Wisconsin, where her husband works as an engineer.

The money Krishna uses to pay for rising tuition comes from student loans and her husband's job.

But tuition costs are rising, and the money Krishna makes at the library is becoming even more important to her as she uses it to make up the difference in living expenses.

Louisville junior Emmanuel Clark started working at McDonald's to make up for the latest tuition jump. When fees increased, he started filling out applications for loans and work.

"Tuition went up," he said. "But before that, I was scraping by fine."

Reach-Amber Coulter
at news@wkuherald.com

FINISH: Tops next play on Feb. 9 at Denver

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10A

on all three of his three-point shots, Junior Benson Callier added 10 points and eight rebounds.

Senior forward Ivan Almonte led the Golden Panthers with 20 points and 10 rebounds.

Western now has nine days to rest before it travels to Denver Feb. 9. The Panthers

(12-9, 3-3 SBC West) are tied with North Texas for second in the Sun Belt West Division.

"It's huge to get a rest," Winchester said. "It gives us a chance to get our legs back. We'll be hungry to get back and continue where we left off."

Reach Jason Stamm
at sports@wkuherald.com

Sun Belt Conference Standings

East	Conference	Overall
Western	8-1	16-5
Arkansas-Little Rock	4-3	11-8
Arkansas State	5-4	10-13
Middle Tennessee	3-4	10-9
Florida International	2-5	5-14
West		
South Alabama	5-2	14-5
North Texas	5-3	12-7
Denver	6-3	12-9
Troy	3-5	10-10
New Orleans	2-6	5-14
Louisiana-Lafayette	1-7	5-14

IMPACT: Swanson hopes to make NCAA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10A

record in the 1,000 freestyle against Southern Illinois last Saturday, finishing in 9:24.49.

Junior Scott Chlasta, Swanson's roommate, said Swanson is a vocal leader and helps with the details of the team in and out of the pool.

"Karl's a mediator for our team and our coaches," he said. "He really helps out with

our team bonding and bringing us together."

After graduation, Swanson, a financial management major and economics minor, hopes to find employment in the field of financial planning or business finance.

Although he has spent most of his life in and around the pool, Swanson doesn't foresee himself coaching after college.

"I can't really see myself being a swim coach," he said. "That's something that's

never really appealed to me. I'm too much of a competitor."

Swanson said his goal for the team this season is to repeat as champions of the Sun Belt Conference. Individually, his goal is to qualify for the NCAA Championships on March 23 in Athens, Georgia. Swanson has never qualified for the NCAA meet.

Reach David Harten
at sports@wkuherald.com

EXCITED: Team recruiting more in Georgia

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10A

backer is the only transfer in the class.

Boyle red-shirted last season at Louisville and was a first-team all-state selection at Madisonville's North Hopkins High School.

He posted 90 tackles and six sacks as a senior, and Wells said they expect a great season out of him.

"The one thing when I remember when I recruited him throughout last year, in the Western part of the state everyone around there talked about how tough he is," Wells said. "He is a head hunter and he goes out there and hits people. He just has to get comfortable in a new environment."

Wide receiver Seth Tammie will be joining a former Boyle County High School teammate and Danville native, quarterback Brandon Smith.

Tammie caught 69 passes for 1,237 yards and 16 touchdowns for Boyle County in his senior season. He also helped lead the Rebels to an 11-2 record and the state's 3A quarterfinals.

Boyle County head coach Chris Pardue said Tammie has the drive to do whatever it takes to win.

"Seth is a team player first of all," he said. "He's the kid that everybody hopes their kid grows up to be like, and he is just a great example for younger kids everywhere."

Tammie was also named first team, all-state by the Louisville Courier-Journal.

The recruiting staff also made the race for quarterback tight when they brought in K.J. Black from Louisville's Fern Creek High School, Wells said.

"He is a good passer with great stats coming out of high school," Wells said. "However, his leadership skills is what impressed me the most, and that is something that is an intangible at that position." Black threw for 3,421 yards and 18 touchdowns last season, and he led Fern

Creek to the second round of the state playoffs.

Fern Creek head coach Bob Bronger said Black has a great determination to win and keeps things in perspective.

"He's extremely polite beside being a tremendous athlete," Bronger said. "He's very humble. He doesn't have any air about him at all."

The Hilltoppers also recruited five defensive players from Georgia, a state the team hopes to get more players from, Elson said.

"Western is also expecting to hear from three more recruits by the end of the week," Wells said.

Reach Abbey Shull
at sports@wkuherald.com
Beth Wilberding contributed to the story.

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Women's basketball

Lady Tops prepping for FU

BY JAKE MITCHELL
Herald reporter

One year ago, the Lady Toppers were in cruise control. On top of the Sun Belt Conference East Division and a perfect 7-0 in conference play, Western was in the middle of an impressive run of 13 consecutive wins.

What that meant for Coach Mary Taylor Cowles' team was one thing — dominance. This season didn't begin with that level of control. Western is 15-5 overall and 5-2 in Sun Belt play. Halfway through their conference schedule, the Lady Toppers are in third place in the East division behind Middle Tennessee and Florida International, the team they face this weekend.

As the team gets deeper into conference action, however, Cowles said she likes her team more and more.

"We're continuing to get better," she said. "What you hope for is to not peak too early. I feel like we should have won some of those games, but I like where we're headed."

Since starting conference play 1-2, the Lady Toppers have won four straight, including two on the road.

The Lady Toppers return to Diddle Arena at 7 p.m. Saturday to face FIU in their first home

game since Jan. 21.

When the Lady Toppers host the Golden Panthers (12-7, 6-1 SBC East), it will be for possession of second place in the East division.

Last season, the Golden Panthers finished 7-7 in the Sun Belt and fourth in their division. The Golden Panthers' improvements are just part of a tougher Sun Belt Conference, Cowles said.

"I like the fact that the Sun Belt has gotten tougher," Cowles said. "The league as a whole has taken steps forward."

Two high-profile Lady Toppers, senior guard Tiffany Porter-Talbert and sophomore forward Crystal Kelly, have lived up to expectations.

Both All-Americans lead the Lady Toppers' stat sheet in multiple categories. Kelly tops the squad with 20.3 points per game. Porter-Talbert is second in scoring with 16 points per game. She edges out Kelly for the team lead in rebounding with 8.7 per game.

Kelly was also named conference player of the week for

the third time this season.

Tuesday. The Lady Toppers have owned opposing teams statistically. Western has outscored its opponents by 11 points per game and out-rebounded them by 19 per game.

"Our team is so talented," Kelly said. "We have so many threats. Teams shouldn't be able to stop us."

When conference play started Jan. 8 at MTSU, it didn't appear as though Western could do the stopping.

After losing to the defending Sun Belt Tournament champion Blue Raiders 68-63, the Lady Toppers lost another conference game on the road six days later at Arkansas State.

"I don't think any of us knew what was happening," Kelly said. "But we had a meeting and decided we can still achieve our goal of winning the Sun Belt. And that's all that matters."

Playing at Diddle, however, has had its advantages for the Lady Toppers in the past year.

Since the beginning of the

"What you hope for is to not peak too early. I feel like we should have won some of those games, but I like where we're headed."

— Mary Taylor Cowles
Western's basketball coach

2004-05 season, Western is 21-0 in regular season games, including a 9-0 mark this season.

Division-leading MTSU has started conference play 6-1, but first-year coach Rick Insell still won't see Western among the Sun Belt elite.

"Western still has to be the favorite to win the conference," Insell said. "They have the two best kids in the conference with Kelly and Porter-Talbert, and they can get on top of you awful quick."

Reach Jake Mitchell
at sports@wkuherald.com

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Sun Belt Conference Standings

East Division	Conference	Overall	West Division	Conference	Overall
MTSU	6-1	13-7	North Texas	5-3	15-5
FIU	5-3	12-7	Louisiana Laf.	4-4	14-6
Western	5-2	15-5	South Alabama	3-4	9-10
Arkansas State	4-2	10-9	Ole Miss	3-5	9-10
Arkansas-LR	2-4	10-9	Troy	2-5	8-10
			New Orleans	0-8	2-18

COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD

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Notable

Of the 20 players who signed to play football on National Signing Day yesterday, nine are from Kentucky. Last season, the Hilltoppers signed just nine freshmen overall, and only three were from Kentucky.

SPORTS

College Heights Herald • Western Kentucky University • Thursday, February 2, 2006 • Page 10A

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'Local boy' leaves impact



Surah Wright/Herald

Senior swimmer Karl Swanson plans to train for triathlons after his time with the Western swim team is over.

STORY BY DAVID HARTEN
Herald reporter

It's always special when an athlete can perform in front of his family and friends.

For senior swimmer and Bowling Green native Karl Swanson, it's something he has been doing since he began swimming competitively at age 6.

"It's a great feeling," Swanson said. "I love that my parents and friends are able to watch my swim meets. If I had gone somewhere far away, they might not have been able to come. It's just been really nice to swim in front of them."

Swanson, a tri-captain for the Toppers this season with seniors John Bishop and James Campbell, is one of two swimmers from Bowling Green on the Toppers roster and one of their top performers. He will compete in his last dual meet with the swim team as a junior Saturday at Louisville.

"Any time you can keep a local swimmer in your pool, I think it's a

huge advantage," coach Bruce Marchionda said. "He's a local boy breaking school records. It's a great thing for him and pride for the community as well."

Swanson, a 2002 graduate of Bowling Green High School, came to Western after lettering four years on the Purple's swim team. He was the team's most valuable player his junior and senior years.

Marchionda said when Swanson first arrived at Western, he was not expected to contribute much. Every season, Swanson has gotten better and has emerged as a leader, he said.

As a freshman, Swanson was named the Hilltoppers' most dedicated and most improved swimmer. He was named most valuable swimmer as sophomore and co-captain as a junior.

Swanson also won the Missouri Valley Conference swimmer of the year award in 2004, then the team

gural Sun Belt Conference swimmer of the year award last season.

In his career on the Hill, Swanson has broken school records in the 1,000 and 1,650-yard freestyle and the 400 individual medley, records he still holds.

Swanson has also been named an academic All-American the past two seasons.

This year, Swanson has been named Sun Belt Conference performer of the week twice. He has posted season-best times in the 500 freestyle, 1,000 freestyle and 1,650 freestyle.

Swanson said his goals when he first came to Western were to do well academically and fit in as a student.

"Close up there was definitely a goal of doing well as a swimmer," he said.

Swanson tied his own school

SEE IMPACT, PAGE 8A

Men's basketball

Tops finish Panthers at foul line

Lee returns, scores 16

BY JASON STAMM
Herald reporter

If sophomore guard Courtney Lee was still feeling the effects of the hip contusion he suffered against New Orleans Saturday, he didn't show it in the stat sheet against Florida International Tuesday.

Initially listed as day-to-day, Lee started and got 16 points and seven rebounds as Western defeated FIU 66-61 in Miami.

"He's one of the biggest pieces of the puzzle for us," freshman guard Orlando Mendez-Valdez said. "He's one of our leaders and always gives us great energy. He really helped us win tonight."

The Toppers couldn't pull away from the Golden Panthers in the first half, and Western's biggest lead was 23-14 with seven minutes left. They took a 29-24 lead into halftime.

Western (16-5, 8-1 Sun Belt Conference East) used a 10-0 run beginning at the 11:15 mark to take a 47-33 lead. FIU (5-14, 2-5 SBC East) began a 23-9 run of its own at the 8:40 mark to tie the game at 56 with three minutes to play.

The Golden Panthers grabbed the lead at 58-56 with two minutes left on a basket from senior forward Ismael N'Diaye.

"We had a mental breakdown on defense and they capitalized," Mendez-Valdez said. "We broke down and they got hot shooting the ball."

Western's poise at the free throw line proved to be the difference. The Toppers hit all 10 of their free throws with less than two minutes left.

Western shot 21 of 30 from the free throw line as a team. Lee, Winchester and junior guard Ty Rogers were a combined perfect 16 of 16.

"It really says a lot about the team to be able to hit those shots," Winchester said. "Once it came down to the end of the game, we just had to step up and make the shots. It says a lot to pull out the win."

Lee was listed as day-to-day after falling on a missed block in the second half of Saturday's game.

The Toppers made just nine shots from the field as FIU shot 55.6 percent in the second half.

The Toppers' rebounding helped them get the win as they out-rebounded FIU 40-29.

Coach Darrin Horn was unavailable for comment.

Winchester led the Toppers with 19 points and eight rebounds. He also connected

SEE FINISH, PAGE 8A

Football

Elson excited by signees

BY ARREY SHULL
Herald reporter

On National Signing Day last year, coach David Elson signed nine freshmen to join the Hilltopper football family.

This year, he had that many players from Kentucky alone.

The program announced the signing of 19 freshmen and a transfer from Louisville in a press conference yesterday in Diddle Arena.

"The thing that I am most excited about with this class is that I think it backs up what we said when I first started back in March 2003," Elson said. "We want to recruit the state of Kentucky better than anybody does, and this signing class states that with nine kids from the state."

One of the biggest battles the coaches won this year

was recruiting C.J. Foster, a native of Tusculum, Ala. He turned down two offers from Division I-A schools to become a Hilltopper.

"Foster had two legitimate Conference USA offers from Tulsa and Memphis, but he stuck with us," Elson said.

A major selling point for recruiting this year was Elson's contract extension that could keep the coach at Western through 2012.

"We like to bring up our past success," said recruiting coordinator Walter Wells. "The main thing we sell is the chance to play football, win championships, and we sell the Gateway Conference, which is the toughest conference in I-AA. If we can get them on campus, we hardly ever lose them."

Blake Boyd, a 6-foot-3, 235-pound outside line-

SEE RECRUIT, PAGE 8A



Nick Adams/Herald

Western coach David Elson announces the signing of 20 players to National Letters-of-Intent in a press conference yesterday in Diddle Arena.

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